

# EASTERN ROADS GET RATE ADVANCE OF 5 PER CENT

Decision Expected to Yield Additional Revenue Approximating \$30,000,000.

## I. C. C. NOT UNANIMOUS IN GRANTING INCREASE

Chairman Harlan and Commissioner Clements Dissent Vigorously.

### SOME EXCEPTIONS TO AWARD

In Administration Circles Outcome Is Welcomed as of Great Importance.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Further increases in freight rates were granted to the Eastern railroads today by the Interstate Commerce Commission in a decision from which Chairman Harlan and Commissioner Clements dissented vigorously.

Except on lumber and coal, coke, iron ore and certain other traffic, upon which the commission heretofore has fixed rates adjudicated "reasonable," all railroads operating in the territory between the Atlantic seaboard and the Mississippi, north of the Potomac and Ohio rivers, were allowed the flat 5 per cent increase for which they have been asking for four years.

The railroads hoped to get increases which would add to the annual revenue some \$50,000,000. The commission's decision is expected to give them additional revenue approximating \$30,000,000.

The roads east of a north and south line drawn through Buffalo, Pittsburgh and Charleston, W. Va., won by today's decision the increase other than upon the traffic excepted, which they denied them in the commission's decision last August. The roads west of this line, which got partial advances in the August decision, received further advances; so that now all the roads, in what is described as official classification territory, will enjoy uniform advances in both class and commodity rates.

The majority of the commission held that the roads had established in the latest hearings, a greater need of additional net income than ever before. This was due, the decision held, to exigencies arising out of the war, and to an already existing necessity for additional revenues to maintain railroad property.

### FINDINGS OF MAJORITY "MORALLY WRONG"

Chairman Harlan, in his dissenting opinion, held that sufficient aid had been given the roads by the August decision, and that the findings of the majority were "morally wrong." Commissioner Clements based his dissent upon what he regarded as the inability, in law, of the commission to take cognizance of anything in the making of rates other than their justice and reasonableness.

In administration circles the outcome of the case was welcomed as of vast importance. President Wilson issued no formal statement on the case. White House officials said he was greatly pleased over the decision and expected it to have an immediate effect upon the country's economic situation.

### PERMITS ADVANCES ON SEVERAL COMMODITIES

After further consideration, the commission permits advances to be made on cement, starch, brick, tile, clay and plaster. On these commodities no advances were permitted by the decision of August 1. Joint rates between official classification territory and territory south of the Potomac and Ohio and east of the Mississippi may be increased not to exceed 5 per cent. Interstate rates to and from New England also may be increased not to exceed 5 per cent.

While present existing differentials among various Atlantic ports are preserved, the rates between any two of the ports may be increased 5 per cent. The decision says:

"While we differ as to the relative importance to be attached to the various considerations presented, we agree in the conclusion that it is necessary that the carriers' revenues be supplemented by increases throughout official classification territory. Whatever the consequences of the war may prove to be, we must recognize the fact that it exists, the fact that it is a calamity without precedent and the fact that by it the commerce of the world has been disarranged and thrown into confusion. The means of transportation are fundamental and indispensable agencies in our industrial life, and for the common weal should be kept abreast of public requirements.

"Carriers will be required to keep an account of the additions to their revenues from increases in rates subsequent to July 23, 1914, and from new charges and to report separately thereon to the commission at the end of the year, and twenty-four months, respectively."

### MAY BE INCREASED UNDER LIMITATIONS

After stating the exceptions, the decision proceeded:

"In our original reports we declined to allow increases in rates on cement, starch, brick, tile, clay and plaster. On further consideration in the light of existing situation, these rates may be increased throughout official classification territory, under the limitations herein set forth.

"Joint rates between official classification territory on the one hand and southern territory, the southwest and points on or east of the Missouri River on the other, may be increased

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## EMPTY SEATS IN PARLIAMENT

Many Members in Both Houses Will Be Absent on Account of War.

PARIS, December 18.—There will be a number of empty seats in both houses when the French Parliament meets on December 22. Those of Senator Emile Raymond and Deputies Pierre Gougou, Edouard Mortier and Paul Prost, who were killed in battle, will be draped in crepe.

There are a number of Senators and Deputies in the territory occupied by Germany, and the French government has been trying to communicate with them through the Spanish embassy in Berlin, but so far unsuccessfully.

Among the members is one of the deans of the Senate, the academicien, Alfred Meslinier. Others include Senators Charles Noel, Georges Ernault, Charles Seblin, Joseph Debove, Gustave Dron and Auguste Potté, who are Mayors of the cities they represent in Parliament, and remained at their posts.

Deputy Pasqual, a territorial lieutenant in the active French army, is another who will be missing. He was taken prisoner at Arras. Deputy Basly, the Mayor of Lens, will also be absent, as he is believed to have been shot by the Germans.

## SENATE REJECTS COLLINS

He Is Rejected as Postmaster of Kansas City, Mo.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—The nomination of W. N. Collins as postmaster at Kansas City, Mo., was rejected by the Senate today. Senator Reed, of Missouri, opposed confirmation.

Early this week the Senate refused to confirm J. D. Lynn, whose nomination to district attorney for Western New York, was opposed by Senator O'Gorman. Some Senators maintain that none of the President's recess appointments will be confirmed if they are objectionable to Senators from the States involved, and they also hold that such recess appointments should operate to prevent recess appointments from holding office. The President, however, is said to have maintained that Mr. Lynn should hold office until March 4, under the recess appointment, despite rejection of the nomination.

## REBELLION AT AN END

Most of Followers of De Wet and Beyers Captured or Dispersed.

CAPTOWN, December 18 (via London).—General Louis Botha, Premier of the Union of South Africa, considers the rebellion, apart from the rounding up of a few stray bands, is at an end. He has gone for a short vacation before undertaking a campaign against German Southwest Africa.

With the capture of General de Wet and the death of General Beyers in an engagement, the South African government recently announced the rebellion started by those leaders was practically at an end. Most of the followers of De Wet and Beyers, it was said, either had been captured or dispersed.

## COTTON LOAN FUND PORTAL

Demands From Southern States Exceeding Expectations.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Although a complete list of applications for loans from the \$135,000,000 loan fund is not available in Washington, it was said here to-night that demands were exceeding expectations, and that predictions that the fund would not be used except by a few borrowers would not be borne out. One official, in close touch with the situation, declared to-night he believed a trip through the South in the interest of the fund would develop enough requests to take up the entire amount.

## MUST LIVE UP TO CONTRACT

Daniels Orders Paymaster General to Enforce Clause.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Contractors who agree to furnish navy material must hereafter fulfill their contracts on time or suffer a penalty. Secretary Daniels today ordered the paymaster-general rigidly to enforce the clause in all contracts and open purchase orders stipulating that if satisfactory delivery is not completed on time, the paymaster-general shall be at liberty to buy the articles at the contractor's expense, any additional cost to be collected from the bondsman.

## TAKEN OVER BY GOVERNMENT

New Steamer Albatross Becomes Flagship of Mercantile Squadron.

NEW YORK, December 18.—The new Albatross steamer, the Albatross of the Allen Line, has been taken over by the British government and made flagship of the British mercantile cruiser squadron, according to a cablegram received here today. The Albatross is a 10,000-ton liner, the latest of the Allen line. The Albatross has been fitted with eight six-inch rifles and several quick-firers. Admiral Dudley P. Dechail is in command of the squadron.

## CREW RESCUED AT SEA

No Lives Lost When the British Steamer Rivulet Foundered.

KEY WEST, Fla., December 18.—Rescue of the crew of the British steamer Rivulet, which foundered at sea, was reported at Sand Key, Fla., late last night by the British steamer Albatross. Captain Harrison, of the Albatross, said that the crew of the Rivulet is now at Abaco Lighthouse, Bahamas. He added that no lives were lost when the Rivulet foundered. The Albatross was en route from Naples to Gulfport, and left the Italian port about November 15. No further details are known here.

## SCHOONER PUTS INTO PORT

The Alice May Davenport Leaking Badly and With Pumps Out of Order.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—The schooner Alice May, which was leaking badly, and with her pumps out of order, the schooner Alice May Davenport, bound from Turks Island, Bahamas, for Portland, Me., with a cargo of salt, put into Southport today for repairs. The vessel's pumps gave way during the recent storm which swept the South Atlantic coast. Her condition is not serious.

## BRYAN WILL NOT BE HOST

Calls On Diplomatic Breakfast Because of President's Bereavement.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Secretary Bryan announced to-day that the diplomatic breakfast, usually given by the Secretary of State at his residence on New Year's Day, would be omitted this winter because of President Wilson's recent bereavement.

## T. J. AGEE KILLED IN SOUTHERN WRECK

Fourteen People Are Injured When Passenger Train Leaves Rails.

### BACKING AROUND CURVE

Derailment Occurs Two Miles North of Jetersville, at 3:10 o'Clock.

Thomas J. Agee, of 612 North Thirty-third Street, was killed instantly, and fourteen persons were injured, at 3:10 o'clock yesterday afternoon on the Southern Railway, two miles north of Jetersville, when the tender of passenger train No. 13 left the rails, dragging with it the engine and two passenger coaches. The train, in charge of Conductor H. F. Drake and Engineer J. S. Robinson, was backing toward Richmond, and rounding a sharp curve at a speed of twenty miles an hour when the accident occurred.

### LIST OF PEOPLE INJURED IN WRECK

The injured are:

Engineer J. S. Robinson, of Richmond; bruised about body and face.

Edgar Pollock, of Danville; slightly injured.

Mrs. E. P. Thomas, of 3016 East Broad Street, Richmond; right arm injured.

Mrs. F. M. Silcott, Philadelphia; left thigh bruised.

A. H. Davis, Ontario, Va.; left leg injured and face bruised.

C. S. Baltimore, Baltimore, Md.; right leg bruised.

W. B. Simms, Jr., Maxwellton, Va.; both knees skinned.

F. E. Robbins, South Boston, Va.; slightly bruised.

Mrs. C. V. Royall, 223 East Tenth Street, South Richmond; cut over left eye.

Kate Redd, colored, Meherrin, Va.; left knee and hip bruised.

Baggage-master T. C. Allen, of Richmond; cut on face and hands.

Fireman Thomas Clarke, colored, Richmond; left arm badly bruised.

A. J. Jett, Richmond; slightly injured.

Mrs. C. W. Owen, Emporia, Va.; slightly hurt. Mrs. Owen's ten-year-old son, accompanying her, was uninjured.

### THREE PHYSICIANS WERE ON TRAIN

Immediate attention was given the injured by three physicians, Dr. Young, of Burkeville, Dr. R. T. Stivers, of Jetersville, and Dr. Aaron, of Amelia, who were on the train when the accident occurred. A special train carrying physicians and nurses in charge of Dr. George Ben Johnston, was made up in Richmond and hurried to the scene of the wreck when news of the accident reached here. A wrecking crew last night was at work clearing away the debris, and it was stated at the office of the Southern Railway here last night that the line would be open for traffic at an early hour this morning.

The body of T. J. Agee, who was killed, was taken to the morgue at Richmond last night on train No. 13. When he met his death he was on his way to visit relatives at Blanche, N. C., during the Christmas holidays. He had been employed as a mechanic by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway here, and leaves a wife. His body was badly mangled when pulled from the wreckage, and there was every indication that death was instantaneous.

### WAS PRECEDED BY FREIGHT WRECK

At 10:50 o'clock yesterday morning several cars in through freight train No. 74 were derailed not far from Chula, a way station near Jetersville, turning up the track for some distance and completely blocking traffic. Before the later accident occurred, passenger train No. 8, due to arrive in Richmond from the South at 2:35 P. M., and passenger train No. 13, leaving here at 10:20 A. M., had met at the scene of the freight wreck and transferred passengers. No. 13, carrying passengers from Richmond south toward Richmond, was going north, the engine backing up when the fatal accident occurred, not far from the scene of the morning wreck. In the ill-fated train were two baggage coaches, an express car and two day coaches. After the transfer, the tender was at the front of the train and the two day coaches next to the engine. Railroad officials stated last night that they were unable to account for the accident.

### PHYSICIANS REPORT INJURED NOT SERIOUSLY HURT

It was stated last night that attending physicians do not regard as extremely dangerous the injuries of those injured in the wreck. Bruises, slight cuts and fractures, it was stated, are the most serious injuries sustained, although persons reaching here last night from the scene of the wreck reported that many passengers not actually injured were badly shocked.

In leaving the rails engine 1105, of the passenger train, crashed to the ground on its side, tearing away sections of the track several yards in length, while its tender was twisted into a tangled mass of wreckage and almost demolished. Of the coaches in the wreck, the first-class car, next to the engine, was the hardest hit. The second-class coach, next to the train, was badly damaged.

The accidents of yesterday tend to confirm a prevalent superstition that railroad wrecks rarely ever come singly, but that one wreck is usually followed by others within a brief period of time. A derailment on the Southern Railway, between Richmond and Danville, last Tuesday, blocked traffic for several hours, being followed within a short time by the two accidents of yesterday.

## SHOTS FALL ON U. S. SOIL

Camps Established at Naco by American Troops.

NACO, ARIZ., December 18.—Five bullets from the Mexican fighting around Naco, Sonora, struck to-day near shelters built by United States troops on the border. Many other shots fell on United States territory.

Plank camps east and west of Naco, Ariz., were established to-day by the American troops. The Sixth Brigade of Infantry and three batteries of artillery are on route, expected here to-morrow. Ammunition arrived to-day. Intermittent firing on the Mexican side continued all day. Hills Carranza troops, defending Naco, seemed to be doing most of the shooting.

George C. Carothers, special agent of the American State Department, arrived to-day at the camp of the besiegers. He went into conference with Governor Maytorena.

# RUSSIANS FALL BACK

Half the Joy of Receiving Lies in Sharing



## GARDNER GETS ANGRY AT COMMITTEE HEARING

Demands of Members Whether They Question Data Submitted to Prove Unpreparedness.

### MEETING ENDS IN AN UPROAR

Massachusetts Representative Resents Imputation That His Campaign for Investigation Is in Interest of Manufacturers of War Materials.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Public hearings before the House Naval Committee ended to-day in an uproar, when Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, a witness, demanded that committee members say whether they questioned data he had submitted to prove the nation's military unpreparedness.

Mr. Gardner's insistence so angered Representative Witherspoon, of Mississippi, that he quit the committee room, afterwards by Representative Gray, of Indiana, aroused Mr. Gardner's resentment, and the meeting broke up abruptly.

Representative Gardner vigorously resented what he said was an imputation that his campaign for investigation of the military situation was in the interest of manufacturers of war materials. He called upon Mr. Gray, who was questioning him, to "get up and prove his facts," but the latter had nothing further to say, and the chairman declared the hearing ended.

The committee will meet Monday to complete the naval appropriation bill, the plan being to report it, if possible, before the holidays.

Mr. Gardner's statements to-day were based largely on the testimony of the admirals and others before the committee and reports of the navy general board. The war of words came after the witness had finished the statement and submitted to a long cross-examination. Mr. Gardner said he did not want his statements challenged later in Congress, and sought an immediate expression from the committee members.

### WITHERSPOON DECLARES REQUEST "OUTRAGEOUS"

Representative Witherspoon declared sharply that the request was "outrageous."

"I must say the hearings be closed," said the Mississippi Representative. "I am tired of this outrage."

Chairman Padgett asked him to withdraw the motion, but he persisted, and when Mr. Gardner renewed his request for an expression of opinion, left the room.

"Did you write any letters to any mercantile organizations over the matter?" asked Mr. Gray when quiet had been restored.

"I hired a man to send out a printed letter to every Chamber of Commerce in the land, telling them to bring it before the meeting, and inclosing a copy of my speech. In the South, particularly North Carolina, several of them did not approve of it."

"How many of these letters did you write?"

"I do not know. I gave it to one of these publicity fellows."

"What organizations did you employ for that purpose?" persisted Mr. Gray.

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## FRANCE IN EXCELLENT FINANCIAL CONDITION

Optimistic Report of General Situation Given by M. Ribot, Minister of Finance.

### SEES NO CAUSE FOR ANXIETY

Total of National Defense 5's Subscribed For Exceeds 1,000,000,000 Francs—Magnitude of Accounts Indicates Confidence in Bank.

PARIS, December 18 (5:45 P. M.).—An optimistic report of the conditions of the treasury and of the general financial situation in France was made to the appropriations committee of the Chamber of Deputies to-day by M. Ribot, Minister of Finance. The minister declared the nation's financial reserves were such that she can regard without anxiety the prospect of prolongation of hostilities.

M. Ribot appeared to explain the 1915 budget. He told the committee that the government had advanced to other countries these sums: to Belgium, 250,000,000 francs (\$40,000,000); to Serbia, 200,000,000 francs; to Greece, 20,000,000 francs; to the Bank of Montenegro, 50,000,000 francs.

The treasury on September 1 had in circulation 127,000,000 francs of treasury bonds. This was increased before the end of November to 340,000,000 francs, the total authorized under the government's decree of October 1. However, the government of December 1 authorized an increase to a total of 1,000,000,000 francs. The total of national defense 5's subscribed for now exceeds 1,000,000,000 francs.

The Finance Minister explained that the Bank of France advanced to the government for mobilization expenses 250,000,000 francs. The Bank of Algeria advanced 100,000,000 francs. This proved insufficient, and in September the government called upon the Bank of France to increase its advances to an ultimate total of 600,000,000 francs.

M. Ribot pointed out that the gold holdings of the bank on December 13 were slightly in excess of the amount held just before the beginning of the war, which was 1,111,341,863 francs. Efforts are being made to increase this stock. M. Ribot also called attention to the comparatively small increase in note circulation, which in the last two months and a half had expended only 65,000,000 francs.

The magnitude of current accounts indicate popular confidence in the Bank of France, M. Ribot said. The notes out, are standing at no abroad, while the notes of her enemies have depreciated considerably.

## KAISER TO RETURN TO FRONT

Detained in Berlin for Some Time Because of Illness.

AMSTERDAM, December 18 (via London).—According to the Telegram, Emperor William, who has been detained in Berlin for some time because of illness, will return to the front this week.

The Emperor, the dispatch says, has just conferred the decoration of the Iron Cross, first class, on Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg.

## BRITISH PROTECTORATE OVER EGYPT PROCLAIMED

Prince Hussein Kemal, Uncle of Present Khedive, Appointed His Successor.

### WILL TAKE TITLE OF SULTAN

England Accepts All Responsibility and Declares Country Free From All Obedience to Constantinople Self-Government Is Expected.

LONDON, December 18 (11:12 P. M.).—A British protectorate over Egypt was proclaimed to-day. Prince Hussein Kemal has been appointed Sultan, and has accepted. He is an uncle of Abbas Hilmi, until now Khedive.

The French government has recognized the British protectorate over Egypt, in which France formerly had such important interests, and in return Great Britain has given notice that it adheres to the Franco-Moroccan treaty of 1912, which gave France a protectorate over Morocco.

In a letter addressed to Prince Hussein on his appointment, the British High Commissioner for Egypt, Milne Cheetham, details the efforts which he says England made to avert war with Turkey, but which were frustrated by the war party and the Ottoman Cabinet.

### GREAT BRITAIN ACCEPTS ALL RESPONSIBILITIES

In inviting Prince Hussein to accept the office of "the prince of the family of Mehmet Ali, most worthy to occupy the Khedival position, with the title and style of Sultan of Egypt," Mr. Cheetham announces that Great Britain accepts all responsibilities for defense of the territories under the new Sultan; that all Egyptian subjects will be entitled to protection by Great Britain; that with the disappearance of Ottoman suzerainty, the restrictions placed by Turkey upon the numbers and organization of the army will disappear, that the relations with foreign powers will be conducted by a British representative in Cairo, and that the religious convictions of the Egyptian subjects will be respected scrupulously.

In connection with his letter, the commissioner, in a statement to-night, says that in declaring Egypt free from obedience to Constantinople, Great Britain has been animated by no hostility toward the caliphate, and that in any movement to strengthen and improve the Mahometan institution the new Sultan will have the government's support. The promise is made that after that, "in such measure as the degree of enlightenment of public opinion may permit," the government "will be associated with the task of government."

Many here express the opinion that a clearer definition of Great Britain's position in Egypt will accelerate progress toward self-government in that country.

Abbas Hilmi arrived in Vienna to-day, according to advices received in London.

### FUNERAL OF MAJOR-GENERAL DAVIS

WEST POINT, N. Y., December 18.—Major-General George E. Davis, United States Army, retired, who died in Washington on Tuesday, was buried with full military honors in the post cemetery here to-day.

## ALLIES LOSE HOPE OF EARLY INVASION OF GERMAN SOIL

Mystery Surrounds Decisive Victory Which Berlin Celebrates.

### SILENCE MAINTAINED AS TO NORTH POLAND

Allies' Offensive in West Continues to Progress Slowly.

### GREATEST EFFORTS AT ARRAS

Admiralty Denies Report of Loss of British Destroyer by Kaiser's Ships.

## Cloud of Uncertainty Over Affairs in East

A CLOUD of uncertainty still hangs over operations of the belligerent armies in Poland.

No official German report has been issued to stamp an accurate unofficial claim to a German victory over the Russians, which on Thursday aroused enthusiasm to a high pitch throughout the German empire.

The latest German statement on the situation is issued in the "Land." It says, "we continue to pursue the retreating enemy." Austria is more communicative than Berlin, for Vienna declares the Russian main forces are being pursued on the entire battle front of some 250 miles, from Galicia to that point in Poland northeast of Lodz, where the Bzura River empties into the Vistula.

As regards part, at least, of this statement, Petrograd takes issue with Vienna, asserting that on the left bank of the Vistula an almost complete lull in the fighting prevails, but that all the attacks made against the Russians have been repulsed.

The allies, according to Paris, continue to gain ground in Belgium and France. Berlin, however, asserts that the German operations have resulted in repulses to the allies at various places, in some instances with heavy casualties. Paris says the French artillery has destroyed two heavy batteries in the region of Verdun.

The British protectorate over Egypt has been declared in all the gazettes, and the firing of a salute of 101 guns and the raising of the British flag. Prince Hussein Kemal has been appointed Sultan of Egypt.

The British admiralty denies that any British warships were sunk during the German raid on the east coast of England. It says, however, that 20 men were killed and fifteen wounded aboard the destroyer Hardy.

Although there seems no doubt the Russians are retreating, and that for the present any expectations the allies may have held of an early invasion of Germany must be dismissed, considerable mystery surrounds the reported decisive German victory, which Berlin celebrated last night.

Vienna gives a few details of fighting in the east. The claim is made that the Russians have been driven from their positions north of the Carpathian Mountains, from Krosno to Zakluczyn, which would indicate that part of the southern line of railway in Galicia again is in the hands of the Austrians, and that Piotrkow and another Central Poland town have been stormed, but silence is maintained as to North Poland, where the German victory is said to have been achieved.

The German official report dismisses this battle with the statement that "in Poland we are still pursuing the enemy, who continues to give way."

Amsterdam dispatches serve to heighten the confusion by quoting Berlin papers received there to-day as expressing doubts as to the fact that no names of battlefields are mentioned, and that no lists are given of the number of captured guns and prisoners.

Some disappointment is expressed here at the silence of the Russians, and advices from Petrograd are awaited eagerly.

The allies' offensive in the west continues to progress slowly, according to the Paris communication, although the aggregate gains claimed during the week indicate a considerable advance in Flanders and in the vicinity of Arras, where the allies seemingly are making their greatest efforts in the belief that penetration of the German lines would compel a general German retreat. It is still, however, a matter of mere speculation.

The admiralty denies the German report that German ships which raided the east coast of England on Wednesday sank two British destroyers, saying no British ships were lost.

In reply to a request from the corporations of Hartlepool and West Hartlepool to investigate the raid, the admiralty has replied that this will not be necessary, as the government is in possession of all the facts.

The coroners of the three bombarded towns still are holding inquests over the bodies of victims, the numbers of